

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.       A method for creating a customer profile from customer  
2 information stored in at least one database, said customer information comprising at least  
3 one attribute, said method comprising:  
4                   receiving as input said customer information;  
5                   segmenting said customer information into at least one of a plurality of  
6 groups, said segmenting based upon a value for said at least one attribute;  
7                   defining at least one of a plurality of profiles; wherein said at least one  
8 profile comprises at least one of said groups; and  
9                   analyzing said customer information using said customer profile.

1                   2.       The method of claim 1 wherein said segmenting further comprises:  
2                   defining each group in said at least one of a plurality of groups;  
3                   assigning said customers into said at least one of a plurality of groups  
4 based upon said value of said attribute for said customer; wherein said partitioning  
5 assigns each customer to at most one group.

1                   3.       The method of claim 2 wherein said segmenting further comprises:  
2 specifying at least one of a plurality of expressions; said expressions evaluating to said  
3 value.

1                   4.       The method of claim 3 wherein said expression further comprises a  
2 plurality of said attributes, said attributes combinable based upon at least one of a  
3 plurality of operators.

1                   5.       The method of claim 4 wherein said at least one operator includes  
2 arithmetic operators and logical operators.

1                   6.       The method of claim 3 wherein said segmenting further comprises:  
2 mapping the values produced by said at least one of a plurality of expressions to at least  
3 one of a plurality of segmentation code values.

1                   7.       The method of claim 6 wherein said mapping further comprises:  
2 assigning numeric values to particular ones of said plurality of segmentation code values.

# BEST AVAILABLE COPY

1                    8.     The method of claim 6 wherein said mapping further comprises:  
2     assigning enumerative values to particular ones of said plurality of segmentation code  
3     values.

1                    9.     The method of claim 6 wherein said mapping further comprises:  
2     mapping a range of expression values to said at least one segmentation code value.

1                    10.    The method of claim 1 wherein said at least one attribute includes  
2     age and income.